

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, DC 20268-0001

Before Commissioners:

Ashley E. Poling, Vice Chairwoman;
Mark Acton;
Ann C. Fisher; and
Robert G. Taub

Public Inquiry on Regulations
Pertaining to 39 U.S.C. § 601

Docket No. PI2021-2

ORDER CLOSING DOCKET

(Issued November 24, 2021)

In Docket No. RM2020-4, the Commission sought input from the public about what regulations promulgated by the Commission may be necessary to carry out the requirements of 39 U.S.C. § 601, which describes when the letter monopoly does not apply to a mailpiece.¹ The Commission received a wide range of comments, but there was a lack of consensus and detailed support for the positions among stakeholders as to the direction of the Commission's action.

Finding it necessary to gather more information before promulgating regulations under Section 601, the Commission held Docket No. RM2020-4 in abeyance and

¹ See Docket No. RM2020-4, Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking to Consider Regulations to Carry Out the Statutory Requirements of 39 U.S.C. 601, February 7, 2020 (Order No. 5422).

initiated this inquiry seeking further input from the public.² In particular, the Commission sought comments on two issues: (1) whether Postal Service regulations administering current Sections 601(a), 601(b)(1), and 601(b)(2) should be adopted by the Commission; and (2) what private carrier services are within the scope of Section 601(b)(3). Order No. 5930 at 6.

Comments were received from five parties: James I. Campbell Jr., the Association for Postal Commerce, the Lexington Institute, the Postal Service, and the Public Representative.³

Based on the comments received in response to Order No. 5930 and the comments received in Docket No. RM2020-4 in response to Order No. 5422, the Commission has issued a notice of proposed rulemaking concerning regulations pertaining to Section 601 in Docket No. RM2020-4.⁴ Having received adequate input from the public in order to propose regulations in Docket No. RM2020-4, no further input is necessary in this docket. Accordingly, the Commission closes Docket No. PI2021-2.

It is ordered:

Docket No. PI2021-2, Public Inquiry on Regulations Pertaining to 39 U.S.C. § 601, is hereby closed.

By the Commission.

Erica A. Barker
Secretary

² See Docket No. RM2020-4, Order Holding Rulemaking in Abeyance, July 2, 2021 (Order No. 5929); Notice and Order Providing an Opportunity to Comment on Regulations Pertaining to 39 U.S.C. § 601, July 2, 2021 (Order No. 5930).

³ Comments of James I. Campbell Jr., August 26, 2021; Comments of the Association for Postal Commerce, August 26, 2021; Comments of the Lexington Institute, August 26, 2021; Comments of the United States Postal Service in Response to Order No. 5930, August 26, 2021; Public Representative Comments, August 26, 2021.

⁴ Docket No. RM2020-4, Notice of Proposed Rulemaking for Regulations Pertaining to Section 601, November 24, 2021 (Order No. 6047).